

Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish, From 'Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest'

IPOMOPSIS MINUTIFLORA SMALL-FLOWER STANDING-CYPRESS

Small-flower Standing-cypress is an annual with a stem that is 10-30 cm tall, usually with branches arising from most leaf axils. The alternate stem leaves are up to 3 cm long and are divided into 3 linear segments below, while above they are simple and linear with entire margins. Basal leaves are lacking. Foliage is glabrous to densely glandular. Small flowers are in the upper leaf axils or solitary at the tips of the numerous branch tips. The white or pale blue, tubular corolla is 4-7 mm long and flares to 5 lobes with 5 anthers held just beyond the mouth. The calyx is 5-lobed. The fruit is a rounded capsule with 1-3 seeds, 2.5-3.5 mm long.

The plant superficially resembles EPILOBIUM PANICULATUM, but the latter has 4 separate petals. It is distinguished from other species of IPOMOPSIS in our area in lacking basal rosettes.